2600

MANAGEMENT PLAN

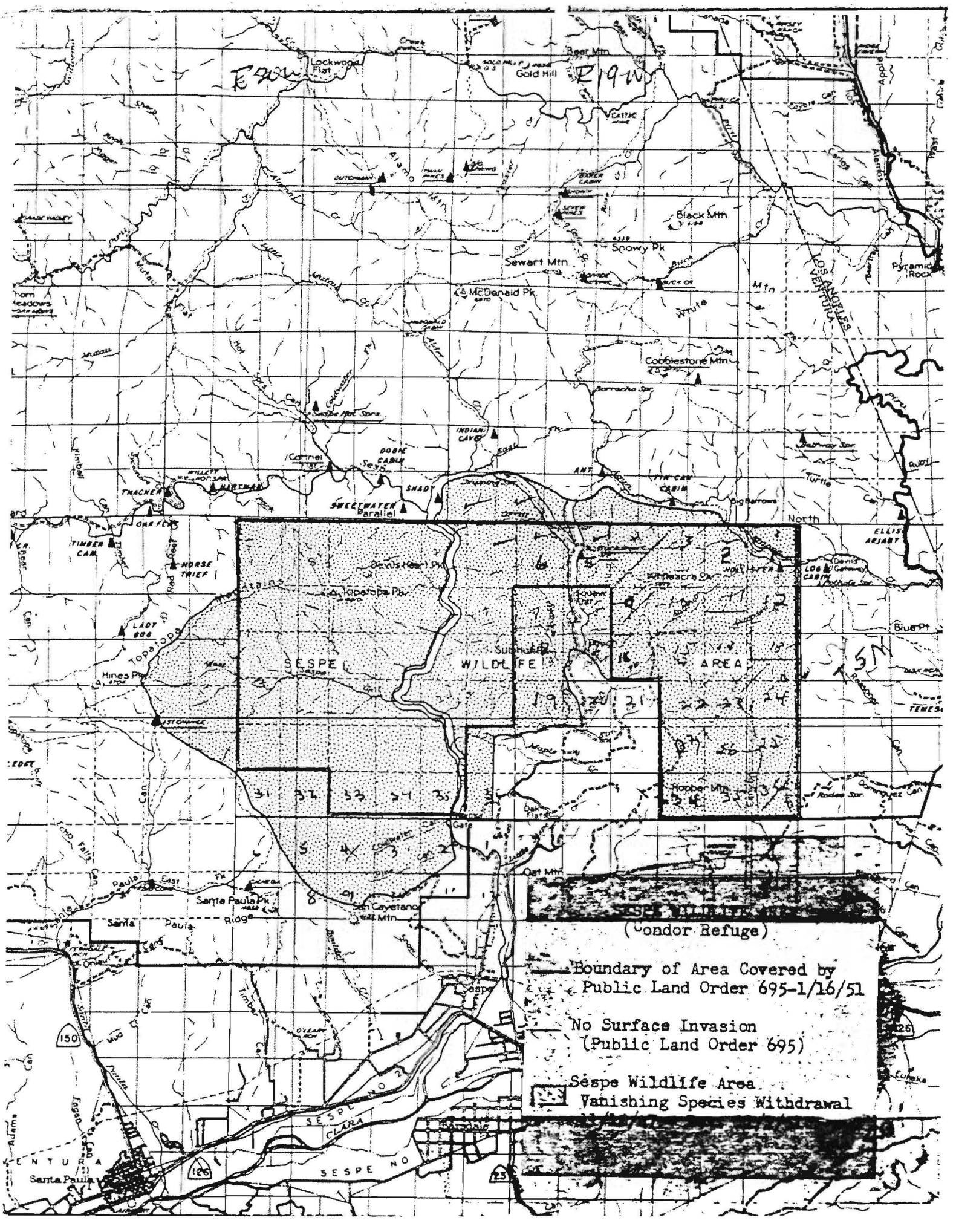
FOR

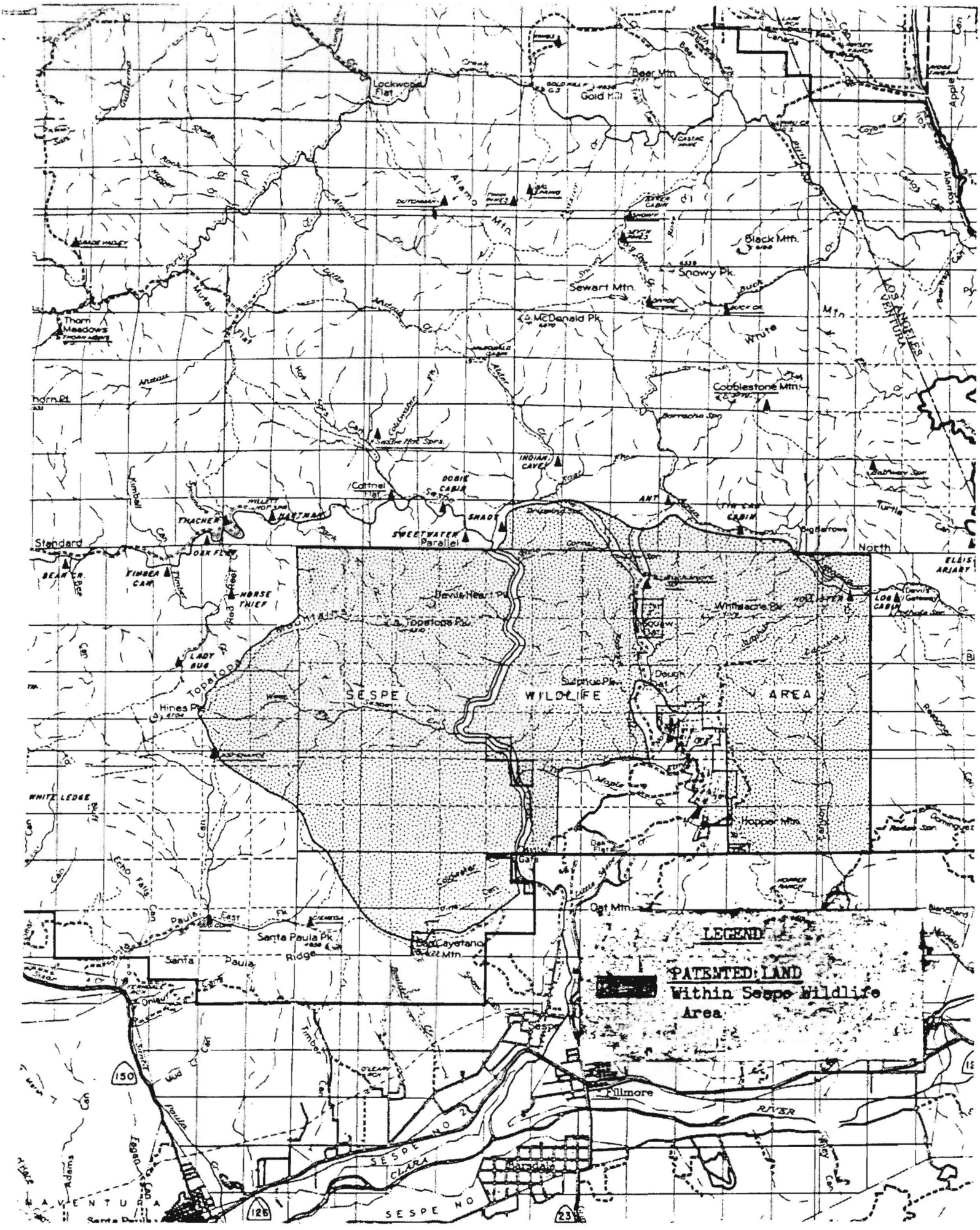
SESPE WILDLIFE AREA

Submitted P. C. Case
District Ranger — December 28, 1951
Date

Warren Barnes
Resource Officer — January 3, 1952
Date

Approved Z. A. Richard
Forest Supervisor — January 3, 1952
Date


(Condor Refuge)
Boundary of Area Covered by Public Land Order 695-1/16/51
No Surface Invasion (Public Land Order 695)
Sespe Wildlife Area
Vanishing Species Withdrawal
SESPE WILDLIFE AREA
Lockwood Flat
Gold Hill
Bear Mtn
Black Mtn
Snowy Pk
Sewart Mtn
McDonald Pk
Cobblestone Mtn
Topatopa Pk
Devils Heart Pk
Whitaker Pk
Hopper Mtn
Oat Mtn
Santa Paula Pk
San Cayetano Mtn
Santa Paula Ridge
Hines Peak
Sespe
Fillmore
Santa Paula
Piru
Blue Pt
Pyramid Rock
Apple
Alerces
Carlos
Los Angeles
Ventura
Sespe No 1
Sespe No 2
Clara
Adams
Timber
Piru
Santa Paula
Fillmore
Sespe
Hopper
Oat


SESPE
WILDLIFE
AREA
LEGEND
PATENTED LAND
Within Sespe Wildlife
Area
Lockwood Flat
Gold Hill
Bear Mtn.
Alamo Mtn.
Black Mtn.
Snowy Pk.
Sewart Mtn.
McDonald Pk.
Cobblestone Mtn.
Thorn Meadows
Cottonwood Hot Spr.
Cottonwood Flat
Indian Cave
Dobie Cabin
Sespe
Thacher
Hartman
Sweetwater
Parallel
Shade
Ant
Tin Can Cabin
Standard
Bear Cr.
Timber Cam
Horse Thief
Devils Heart Pk.
Topatopa Pk.
Whitaacre Pk.
Holister
Lady Bug
Topatopa
Mountain
Hines Pk.
Sespe Pk.
Dough Flat
Hopper Mtn.
White Ledge
Echo Falls
Paula
East Fk.
Santa Paula Pk.
Santa Paula Ridge
Cayetano
Oat Mtn.
Gate
Sespe
Fillmore
Piru
Santa Clara
Ventura
Los Angeles
Apple
North
Turtle
Dogtown
Maple
Timber
Adams
150
126
23

I OBJECTIVE OF THIS PLAN

To outline for the manager on the ground, the policies and procedures for the Sespe Wildlife Area management.

II THE PROBLEM

The importance of proper management of the Sespe Wildlife Area is emphasized by the gradual reduction in Condor numbers and the fact that the area included in this sanctuary is the last major nesting grounds of the bird. It is estimated that only 60 individual Condors now exist.

Selected references on the life history, habits etc., of the California Condor may be found in the appendix of this plan.

Past, present or future uses within the Sespe Wildlife Area which have a bearing on its management:

(1) Oil and gas leasing under the Act of February 25, 1920.

Under this act, the land within the reserve has been and is subject to leasing for the production of oil and gas. Leases are issued by the Bureau of Land Management for a set period of years and are subject to renewal. Exploratory, developmental and operational activities are administered by the U. S. Geological Survey of the Department of the Interior. The Forest Service plays no part in the administration of these leases, except as is stipulated in the leases themselves. Although considerable exploratory work has been done under lease in the Sespe Wildlife Area, to date (1951) no discovery of oil or gas has been made.

(2) Flood water storage reservoirs have been planned on Sespe Creek.

These developments will undoubtedly be accomplished at some future date.

(3) Light grazing use by domestic stock is made of the area.

Three permittees, Percy, Michel and Burson graze about 60 head of stock on U. S. land within the area.

(4) For a number of years recreational use has been confined to the creek bottoms, especially along Sespe Creek. Moderate fishing use is made of the streams which have in the past been stocked by the State Division of Fish and Game. Considerable hunting was done in the area prior to its closure to entry. Recreational use is confined almost entirely to hunting and fishing. hiking, passive rec.

(5) In the past there has been considerable use made of the area by scientists and others for ornithological study of the Condor. Requests for permits to enter the area for this purpose will undoubtedly continue to be made.

Fmr/Emergency

(6) The production of forest products such as firewood, leaf mold etc. has been and will continue to be negligible.

(7) In the past a certain amount of mining for minerals other than oil and gas has been done. However, most of the area has been closed to mineral entry since signing of Secretary of the Interior's Order of January 16, 1951.

(8) Patented lands. About 500 acres of patented land lies within the area. Use of this land, with the possible exception of 320 acres lying along Sespe Creek, should not interfere with the Condor. The only disturbance likely to be caused by the use of this latter property would be from travel to and from the property and the threat of fire spreading from it.

III MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

To promote the perpetuation of the California Condor within the limitations imposed by resources available and existing commitments for conflicting use of the wildlife area. This shall consist primarily of the complete exclusion, insofar as is legally possible, of all activities which disturb or tend to disturb the Condor.

IV AIDS TO MANAGEMENT

(1) The vanishing species area withdrawal.

Under the Secretary of Agriculture's Regulation T-9-I, the Sespe Wildlife Area was established by the signature of the Chief on November 18, 1947. The boundary of the area was revised November 7, 1951 This withdrawal restricted all forms of use on the area over which the Forest Service has control. It did not control gas and oil and other mineral development which falls under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior. A copy of the Sespe Wildlife Area Withdrawal and revision is included in the appendix. This withdrawal area is shown on the accompanying map.

(2) Public Land Order 695

On January 16, 1951 the Secretary of the Interior signed this order which withdrew an area roughly conforming to the T-9-I withdrawal area and on which no appropriation under public land laws could be made. The mineral leasing laws are excepted, so that oil and gas leasing can be continued with certain restrictions. A copy of this withdrawal order may be found in the appendix.

(3) State Fish and Game Laws

State Fish and Game laws protect the Condor. References to specific laws may be found in the appendix.

(4) Fire Laws

Fire laws, including Federal, State and local County, control the use of fire on and in the vicinity of the wildlife area.

(5) Ventura County Ordinance No. 412 of 1949 may control certain use in the Condor area. This zoning ordinance specifically includes the development of natural resources as one of the activies it controls. Controls are not defined in the ordinance, but are provided for by requiring approval of such developmental activity by the Board of Supervisors.

(6) Personnel available for closure enforcement, Condor study, etc.

One regular Forest Service patrolman shall normally be hired from March 1 through October 31 for the enforcement of the closures and fire regulations. This patrolman shall be assigned specifically to the Condor area and its adjacent territory. Four months' salary of this man is financed by the Audubon Society. The remainder of his salary and other costs are financed by the Forest Service.

Assistance in the determination of location of active Condor nests will be furnished as possible by the Audubon Society in the form of a trained man who will spend several months annually within the area.

Other Forest Service personnel will assist in enforcing closures as the occasion demands.

(7) When recommended by the Forest Service certain stipulations are placed in oil leases issued by the Bureau of Land Management. These stipulations may be found in the appendix.

(8) A high degree of cooperative effort should be maintained with other Federal and State agencies concerned in the wildlife area. This applies especially to the U. S. Geological Survey who have the responsibility for the oil and gas developmental operations. Full cooperation of U. S. Wildlife Service trappers, the State Fish and Game wardens, as well as the county warden, should be obtained.

(9) Educational aids to management. These include proper signing of the area, controlled news articles and feature stories, mimeographed information for public distribution and personal contacts.

(10) The operation of the permit system of use as provided for in Regulation T-9-I will be used consistently to control use within the area.

V PROCEDURES

A - Restriction on Use and Occupancy

The area shall be closed under Regulation T-9-I to all forms of human use except as authorized by permits. These will be issued for various activities as follows:

1. Oil and Gas Development

This is controlled by Public Land Order 695 of the Department of the Interior which recognizes two separate areas within the boundaries of the area covered by that Land Order.

(a) A sixteen section area closed to all surface oil activity. Shown in blue cross hatch on the accompanying map.

(b) Balance of area enclosed by green line on accompanying map. Oil activity is permitted in this area except within one-half mile of a condor nest active within three years.

(c) A third area exists outside of that covered by Public Land Order 695 but within the exterior boundaries of, and subject to the restriction of the T-9-I withdrawal. This is shown within the outside red line on the map.

THE SIXTEEN SECTION AREA CLOSED TO SURFACE ENTRY BY PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC LAND ORDER NO. 695 DATED JANUARY 16, 1951

Permits for use and occupancy will be issued to holders of valid oil and gas leases issued prior to January 16, 1951, their employees and agents upon submission of satisfactory evidence of such valid holdings when such permit is needed to cross National Forest land to reach leased area.

Permit will cover only the most direct or reasonable route to and from holdings of the permittee. This permitted use will cover only the existing routes of travel. (Construction of roads or trails for access across government land or oil leases of other persons will be handled under special use construction permits and each case will be considered on its individual merits by the Forest Supervisor.

Permitted use will cover access to and operations on the lease area only.

No permits will be issued to holders of Oil and Gas leases issued after January 16, 1951 as provisions in their leases prohibit any use or occupancy of the surface of the lease.

THE BALANCE OF THE AREA WITHDRAWN UNDER PUBLIC LAND ORDER 695 (OTHER THAN THE SIXTEEN SECTION AREA.)
PERMITS FOR USE AND OCCUPANCY WILL BE ISSUED TO:

1. Holders of Oil and Gas leases, applications or assignments, their authorized employees and agents, upon submission of reasonable evidence of their holdings or employment by those with holdings. Permits to be issued for access to lease for operation, production and bona fide exploration work.

2. Geologists, oil prospectors, engineers, or surveyors engaged in actual survey or exploratory work, either for themselves or in the employ of others. Reasonable evidence of their professional standing, business employment, or personal intentions will be required as a basis for issuance of a permit.

All permits except those applying to leases issued prior to

January 16, 1951 will have included in them the restrictions of no use or entry within one-half mile of a Condor nesting site active within three years.

THE AREA OUTSIDE THAT WITHDRAWN UNDER PUBLIC LAND ORDER 695.

Permits will be issued to Oil and Gas lease holders, employees and agents, geologists and engineers or others engaged in work in the area, either for themselves or others which tends to promote the necessary development of Oil and Gas production in the area.

2. Water Management

Watershed protection, water production, stream stabilization and flood control are all parts of the one primary basis forest resource, the protection of which was the basic reason for the creation of this National Forest.

Full cooperation will be given to water development and flood control projects. In working with these water and flood organizations we will require that their operations interfere as little as possible with the Condors. Their work, of course, will be mainly confined to major stream channels which are now open corridors.

Permits to use the area will be issued to authorized water and flood organization employees for official work. Special conditions may be required to avoid survey work near nests during the critical nesting period.

Any special conditions requiring permits will be considered at the time and determination made by the Forest Supervisor.

3. Grazing

Grazing permittees in the area are as follows:

Squaw Flat Allotment	L.G. & E.W. Burson
Hopper Mountain and Arundell Allotments	Eugene Percy
Pine Canyon Unit of San Cayetano Allotment	Lee Michel

Permits to use the area for management of cattle within their allotments will be issued to these permittees. Conditions will be included in permits to avoid approaching within one-half mile of nesting Condors.

4. Recreation

a - Fishing

The Sespe River, which runs through a corridor in the Condor Sanctuary is the only fishing stream serving a large population adjoining the forest on the south.

Fishing will be permitted in the Sespe River through the Sespe Wildlife Area and in the Agua Blanca Creek where it is within the area. Entry to these fishing waters must be by designated corridors.

The streams and the trail following up the stream shall be considered a "corridor" for travel. Permits will not be required to use these "corridors".

b - Hunting

No access for hunting will be permitted within the Sespe Wildlife Area.

A part of management proposed for the area is to prevent intrusion by hunters. Regulation T-9-I (1) covers the restriction of use and entry on the area except under permit.

Hunting is not included as an activity permitted under Oil and Gas leases on such leases.

The hunting restriction cannot apply to the patented land within the wildlife area.

c - Other

General camping in the area is to be discouraged as not compatible with the objectives of management of the area.

It will be necessary to provide safe camping places for fishermen using the fishing "corridors." Persons using the "corridor" to travel through the area to the Hot Springs area will need the camping spot at Bucksnort. Hot Springs

Permits will not be issued for recreation use of the area such as camping, riding, hiking etc.

Camps along boundary trails, roads or streams within the Sespe Wild Life Area:

Normally closed during Fire Season-July 1 to Rain	Normally open yearlong
Shady	Bucksnort
Ant Camp	Alder Creek
Hollister	All Sespe River Camps
Tin Can Cabin	

5. Ornithological Study or Observation

Permits for ornithological study may be issued (See below - Section V - E)

Observation points accessible from roads at places around the

area boundary from which the public may observe the birds should be developed. Possible locations for such observation points should be selected for study and listed or mapped by the patrolman and others working in the area.

6. Harvesting Forest Products

No sales of forest products such as firewood, burls, leaf mold, etc. will be made in the wildlife area and no free use permits will be issued for these products.

7. Mining

The withdrawal of January 16, 1951 by the Secretary of the Interior will prevent any new mining claim entries in a large portion of the wildlife area. There may be a few existing valid mining claims on the area which may come to our attention. Any data regarding mining claims on the area, either found on location monuments or obtained in conversation with residents or permittees should be recorded.

Permits will be issued to holders of valid mining claims in the area.

8. Other Wildlife

a. Trappers

No entry permits will be issued for trapping in the wildlife area, except when it may be necessary to trap an animal to prevent damage to property or life. Such a case might be a bear breaking into cabins.

b. Predatory Animals are not a problem in or adjacent to the area and no control is planned.

c. Fish Planting

Permits will be issued to employees of the State Division of Fish and Game to enter the area for the purpose of planting fish in any streams which are open to fishing or may affect public fishing waters.

d. State and County Game Wardens

Permits may be issued to authorized State and County Game Wardens and Game Managers to enter the area on official business. They will be kept informed of our plans and procedures of management and will be expected to conform to the same restrictions of use of the area as Forest Service employees.

9. Use on Patented Land

The restrictions in effect on the Government lands do not apply to the private lands in the area. Owners of patented land will be issued permits to cover travel to and from their properties. Such permits will have the usual condition of 1/2 mile distance from nests. Some patented land may have nests on it or be less than 1/2 mile from nests. In such a case, there can be no restriction on the use of the private land.

B - FIRE PROTECTION

1. Intensity of Fire Protection

The Sespe Wildlife Area will be given the same intensity of protection as other areas of the Forest.

Fire protection improvements will be treated the same as other areas. Maintenance and construction work near nesting areas to be scheduled other than during critical nesting time.

Fire is a definite threat to the Condor, and as such, fire protection activities are a definite part of the duties of the wildlife area patrolman. He will be given the same fire training as other patrolmen and will be considered a regular part of the protection force. The fire duties will be the same as outlined for the Oak Flat patrol position and will cover prevention and clean-up work around the oil well areas in and adjoining the wildlife area.

C - EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

1. Restrictions on certain forms of publicity.

Publicity or news items giving even approximate locations of nests and roosts must be avoided. Such information tends to encourage trespass in the area and makes the management job more difficult.

2. News Articles

The public is entitled to accurate and factual informaion about the Condors. Any interesting items should be checked for publicity value and submitted for news items. Notices of enforcement action taken on wildlife area trespass cases are news items which assist our protection job.

Accurate information, with sketch m ap giving boundaries of the area and restrictions on use should be carried by all local papers as soon as the area is definitely established. Presentation of corridor limits may be valuable at opening of fishing and hunting seasons.

3. Mimeographed Information

A concise write-up describing the wildlife area, its purpose, value and general administration and regulations, will be prepared for distribution to persons requesting information about the area. A brief write-up about the life habits of the Condors should be included.

This material will be supplied to persons requesting or needing the information, and should assist in our management job by improved public relations.

4. Personal Contacts

The area patrolman has a definite job of education with every user of the wildlife area. This will be in the form of accurate information of all kinds regarding the permitted use of the area. These contacts will be made wherever possible while on patrol through the area as well as when at headquarters. It is imperative that we establish a respect for our administration by knowing our job and being able to give correct information and assistance.

Supervisor's Office and Ranger District's Responsibility

Contacts will be made with the following persons and organizations as occasion allows, giving full factual information regarding the wildlife area boundaries, restrictions, and administration:

State and County Game Wardens
Service Clubs
Sportsmen's Clubs
Boards of Supervisors
Key Men
Oil and Gas Industry

5. Signing

Sign Policy

a. The exterior boundary of the area will be signed at all places where there is reasonable chance of entrance by people. These points will be roads, trails, streams, ridge tops and open areas where access is unobstructed. The type of sign used will be the standard wildlife area boundary sign, either in wood, paper, or metal as available.

b. Entrance Signs. At various places where "thru-ways" or open "corridors of travel" enter the area, signs will be posted designating them as open to through travel only.

Boundary Sign -

SESPE WILDLIFE AREA

THE AREA BEHIND THIS SIGN IS CLOSED TO ENTRY

Persuant to Regulations of Secretary of Agriculture

Entrance Sign -

ENTERING SESPE WILDLIFE AREA

THIS ROAD (TRAIL) (STREAM) IS OPEN TO THRU TRAVEL

THE AREA ON BOTH SIDES IS CLOSED TO ENTRY

Persuant to Regulations of Secretary of Agriculture

Corridor Sign -

THIS ROAD OR TRAIL

OPEN TO THRU TRAVEL

THE AREA BEHIND THIS SIGN IS CLOSED TO ENTRY

Persuant to Regulations of Secretary of Agriculture

These "thru ways" or "corridors" will be roads, trails, or streams which have been designated.

c. "Corridor" or "thru-way" signs. Signs will be posted on the sides of thru-ways at intervals of 1/3 mile on either side. Signs used will be the standard "corridor" sign.

D.- Study of Condors

Some regular study of Condors is necessary because:

1. A measure of the effectiveness of our management should be obtained and

2. A knowledge of active Condor nests must be kept current, so that disturbing activity may be prevented.

Complete records of Condor flights shall continue to be made by the Thorn Point Lookout throughout each fire season. Observations and the reports from other lookouts should also be encouraged, as well as those from other Forest Service personnel and cooperators. This should suffice for a measure of relative Condor populations on the forest at this time. More precise census methods may be developed later if necessary.

Information on nest locations for 1951 will be obtained by the employee of the Audubon Society, as well as by the cooperative patrolman, incidental to his closure enforcement and fire prevention duties.

Other scientific study may be made at the direction of the Advisory Committee.

E - Advisory Committee

A committee composed of -

1. The President of the National Audubon Society
2. The Director of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at the University of California
3. The Assistant Regional Forester in charge of wildlife management

was established in 1948. The purpose of the committee is to advise the Forest Supervisor in policy matters pertaining to the management of the Sespe Wildlife Area. Full use of the committee shall continue to be made.

F - Law Enforcement

It shall be the objective to contact all persons observed in the wildlife area and ascertain if they have obtained permits for entry. It shall be the policy to prosecute all cases where evidence indicates willful trespass. Violators will be prosecuted in Federal Court. The U. S. Commissioner at Oxnard is authorized to try such cases. A notice of violation will be issued to ALL violators and full facts of the case furnished the District Ranger for futher action.

A regular report of all contacts made by the patrolman shall be submitted to the District Ranger. In each instance, the report shall specify the time and location of the contact, who was contacted, his address, his authority and his stated purpose for being within the Condor area.

G - Operation of Permit System

All those authorized entrance into the sanctuary shall be furnished a permit on the regular form and be required to carry the permit at all times while within the closed area. Permits will be issued only by the Forest Supervisor. Permits will be issued only to individuals and for specified periods of time and areas upon which valid business is to be undertaken. Substantial evidence of valid business within the sanctuary shall be required prior to the issuance of a permit. One copy of the permit shall be retained in the Supervisor's office files, one copy will go to the Ojai District Ranger.

The permittee shall be required to return the permit when business is completed in the area or on expiration.

Attached to each entry permit shall be a 1/2 inch scale map of the Condor Sanctuary which shall show:

1. The area upon which the issuance of the permit is based, and where entry is permitted.

2. Route of travel to reach the above area.

H - Procedures in Regard to Applications for Oil and Gas Leases

When applications for leases are submitted to the Forest Service from the Bureau of Land Management, it shall be the Forest Service recommendation to include all stipulations agreed upon by the Secretaries for the Condor area. Care will be taken to be certain that no leases slip by without the inclusion of these stipulations.

I - The Condor Nests Map

This map shall be maintained in the Supervisor's office under lock and key. One copy only shall be reproduced for the present, to be used by the Audubon Society's nest locator. The map will not be available to anyone else.

VI REVISION OF THIS PLAN

This plan will be subject to revision as needed. Recommendations for revisions will be welcome at all times.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX - TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of References on Condor Life and Habits

Regulation T-9(I) of the Secretary of Agriculture

Report on Vanishing Species Area
Approved by Regional Forester and Chief - 1947

Proposed Revision of Boundary of Sespe Wildlife Area
(Condor Sanctuary) Approved by Chief on November 7, 1951

Withdrawal Order of January 16, 1951
Public Land Order No. 695 . California

Federal and State Laws for Protection of the California Condor

Special Stipulation Adopted by the Department of Agriculture
and the Department of the Interior in Accordance With
Public Land Order No. 695 of January 16, 1951

Special Stipulation Included in Leases Involving 16 Section Area.

Standard Stipulations in National Forest Area - Form 4-216 - Rev.
June 1951

Special Closed Area Permit for Entry Into Area Under Reg. T-9(I)

Notice of Violation - Form 13a-R5

LIST OF REFERENCES ON CONDOR LIFE AND HABITS

1. Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California Report of Audubon Research Fellow for July 1941, With a Preliminary Statement of Plan for Conservation of California Condor. - Koford

   Typed copy on file in Supervisor's Office.

2. Notes On California Condor (Gymnogyps Californianus) Collected on Los Padres National Forest, California - Cyril S. Robinson

   Mimeographed copy on file in Supervisor's Office.

3. Condor Protection. Statement prepared by John H. Baker, President, National Audubon Society - 1950 -

   Typed copy on file in Supervisor's Office.

4. Special Reports prepared annually by patrolmen sponsored by the National Audubon Society.

   On file in Supervisor's Office.

5. Census reports of Thorne Point Lookout and others.

   On file in Supervisor's Office.

VANISHING SPECIES

Regulation T-9 (I). THE UNAUTHORIZED GOING OR BEING UPON ANY AREA WHICH HAS BEEN CLOSED BY THE CHIEF, FOREST SERVICE, FOR THE PERPETUATION AND PROTECTION OF (a) RARE OR VANISHING SPECIES OF PLANTS OR ANIMALS, (b) SPECIAL BIOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES, OR (c) HISTORICAL OR ARCHEOLOGICAL PLACES OR OBJECTS OF INTEREST: ALSO THE UNAUTHORIZED GOING OR BEING UPON ANY AREA SO CLOSED FOR SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTS AND INVESTIGATIONS, OR FOR OTHER PURPOSES WHERE CONTROLLED USE IS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO INSURE PROPER TREATMENT AND PROTECTION. THE BOUNDARIES OF EACH AREA SHALL BE DEFINED BY THE REGIONAL FORESTER AND INDICATED INSOFAR AS PRACTICABLE BY POSTING NOTICES ALONG SUCH BOUNDARIES AND ON ROADS AND TRAILS LEADING INTO SUCH AREAS.

REPORT ON VANISHING SPECIES AREA

I. LOCATION, EXTENT, GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The proposed sanctuary includes the lower Sespe Creek drainages, Pole Canyon and Hopper Canyon, all tributaries of the Santa Clara River in Los Padres National Forest, California, embracing approximately 35,000 acres. The boundary may be described as follows:

> Beginning at the National Forest boundary on the ridge between Hopper Canyon and Dominguez Canyon; thence northerly along the main ridge between Aqua Blanca and Hopper Canyon to the beginning of the divide between Aqua Blanca and Tar Creek; thence due north to Aqua Blanca Trail; thence up said trail to the Buck-snort Trail; thence due west to Alder Creek; thence down Alder Creek to Sespe Creek, thence up Sespe Creek to Hot Springs Canyon; thence southerly to Topa Topa Peak; thence southwesterly along the main ridge to Hines Peak; thence southeasterly along the divide between Santa Paula Canyon and Sespe Creek to the mouth of Pine Canyon; thence up Sespe Creek to the north line of T. 4 S., R. 20 W.; thence east one-half mile; thence north one and one-half miles to Tar Creek; thence easterly up Tar Creek to head of Rock Canyon; thence northerly along the Lockwood-Sespe Road to the Spring Canyon Trail; thence easterly along Spring Canyon Trail to the section line between Sections 15 and 16, T. 5 N., R. 19 W., S.B.M.; thence southerly along the section lines to the southwest corner NW¼ SW¼, Section 34, T. 5 N., R. 19 W., S.B.M.; thence easterly 3/4 miles; thence southerly 1/4 mile; thence easterly along the boundary of the Los Padres National Forest to point of beginning, as shown on the enclosed map.

II. CONDITION REQUIRING ACTION

According to accurate information secured by a technical worker, under a three-year fellowship of the National Audubon Society, the total population of the California Condor (Gymnogyps Californianus) is between 60 and 70 birds. Practically all of their nesting and the winter roosting is within the proposed sanctuary. There is probably not over 15 breeding pairs and mating does not take place more often than every other year. But one egg is laid and the young are cared for by the adults for at least a full year, and the families continue together at least throughout the second. Protection of the birds as far as possible is deemed essential to prevent total extinction of the species.

III. SPECIFIC ACTION PROPOSED

It is proposed that the area be designated as a Condor Sanctuary and given complete closure, with corridors for fishermen along Sespe Creek, and along the Squaw Flat, Dripping Springs Trail.

IV. EFFECT OF ACTION UPON OTHER USES AND RESOURCES

The only conflict foreseen at this time is the possible development of gas and oil leases which have been granted on several sections in the proposed sanctuary. Development of these leases has not yet been started.

Three grazing allotments are included in the refuge and no conflict with this use is anticipated.

The topography of the area is extremely rough. Probably less than 20 percent of it would be accessible to deer hunters. Fire hazards are high and the area is closed to public use during the fire season under Regulation T-1. The existing deer hunting season is within this period. The area is not, therefore, open to deer hunting. The population of other huntable species is very low.

APPROVED:

/s/ B. O. HUGHES
Acting Regional Forester

9/10/47
Date

/s/ R. E. MARSH
Acting Chief

11/18/47
Date

PROPOSED REVISION OF BOUNDARY OF

SESPE WILDLIFE AREA (CONDOR SANCTUARY)

(Original Report on Vanishing Species Area Approved by Chief 11/18/47)

The following revised boundary is proposed for the Condor Sanctuary known as the Sespe Wildlife Area. The purpose of the revision is to include the additional area encompassed by the boundary of the sanctuary withdrawn by the Secretary of the Interior by his Public Land Order No. 695 of January 16, 1951 restricting oil activity, and to adjust the boundary in other instances so that posting may be accomplished more easily and effectively. The revision will also fit the new forest map more accurately. Most revisions are an expansion of the previous boundary. The revised area includes approximately 53,000 acres.

Beginning at the southeast corner of T. 5 N., R. 19 W., S.B.M.; thence northerly along the east boundary of the township to the northeast corner of said township; thence westerly along the north boundary of township to Agua Blanca Creek; thence following Agua Blanca Creek and Agua Blanca Trail, whichever is the most southerly, to junction with Squaw Flat-Agua Blanca Trail; thence following the south side of this trail, approximately one and one-half miles to drainage divide between Stone Corral Creek and Agua Blanca Creek; thence northwesterly and westerly along divide between Stone Corral Creek and Agua Blanca Creek and divide between Stone Corral Creek and Alder Creek to junction with Stone Corral Trail approximately one-half mile east of Dripping Springs; thence following Stone Corral Trail to junction with Alder Creek Trail; thence following Alder Creek Trail and Alder Creek, whichever is the most southerly; to the junction of Alder Creek with Sespe River; thence down the east bank of Sespe River to the north boundary of T. 5 N., R. 20 W., S.B.M.; thence westerly along north boundary of township to northwest corner of said township; thence southerly along west boundary of township to top of Topa Topa Ridge; thence southwesterly along top of Topa Topa Ridge to a point approximately one mile northeast of Hines Peak; thence southeasterly along top of divide ridge between Santa Paula Creek and Sespe River to point of intersection with the San Cayetano Trail in north part of Section 8, T. 4 N., R. 20 W., S.B.M.; thence easterly following the north side of San Cayetano Trail and San Cayetano Road to point where road crosses San Cayetano Ridge on north edge of Section 11, T. 4 N., R. 20 W., S.B.M.; thence

continuing northeasterly following top of ridge to junction with Sespe River at the mouth of Pine Canyon; thence following the west side of Sespe River northerly to south boundary of T. 5 N., R. 20 W., S.B.M.; thence east approximately three-quarters of a mile to the center of Section 36, T. 5 N., R. 20 W., S.B.M.; thence north to intersection with Tar Creek; thence easterly up Tar Creek to Squaw Flat Road; thence northerly following the west side of Squaw Flat Road to junction with Spring Canyon Trail; thence easterly along Spring Canyon Trail to Section line between Sections 21 and 22, T. 5 N., R. 19 W., S.B.M.; thence southerly following the section lines to the southwest corner of Section 34, T. 5 N., R. 19 W.; thence easterly following the south boundary of the township to the point of beginning as shown on the attached map.

Corridors are to be provided for, for fishermen along Sespe Creek, Squaw Flat-Dripping Springs Trail, Squaw Flat-Agua Blanca Trail and Agua Blanca Creek.

It is recommended that the above described boundary for the Condor Sanctuary be approved for closure under regulation T-9-1.

September 13, 1951

/s/ L. A. Rickel
Forest Supervisor

Approved and signed by C. M. Granger on November 7, 1951
Acting CHIEF
U. S. Forest Service
Washington, D. C.

U-USES, LOS PADRES-Oil and Gas Leases; Condor Sanctuary

W-MANGEMENT-Condor

COPY OF WITHDRAWAL ORDER OF JANUARY 16, 1951

(Public Land Order 695)
CALIFORNIA

WITHDRAWING CERTAIN PUBLIC LANDS WITHIN LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST FOR USE AS A CONDOR SANCTUARY

By virture of the authority vested in the President and pursuant to Executive Order No. 9337 of April 24, 1943, it is ordered as follows:

Subject to valid existing rights and to existing withdrawals for power purposes, all public lands within the following described areas in the Los Padres National Forest, California, are hereby withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the public-land laws, including the mining laws and, except as hereinafter provided, the mineral-leasing laws, and reserved as a condor sanctuary, under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture:

SAN BERNARDINO MERIDIAN

T. 5 N., R. 19W., partly unsurveyed
Secs. 1 to 6 inclusive; Secs. 9 to 16 inclusive; Secs. 22 to 27 inclusive; Secs. 34, 35, and 36.

T. 5 N., R. 20 W., unsurveyed
Secs. 1 to 24 inclusive; Secs. 26 to 30 inclusive; Secs. 33, 34, and 35.

The areas described, including both public and non-public lands, aggregate approximately 35,200 acres.

This order shall take precedence over but not otherwise affect the Proclamation of March 2, 1898, as amended, creating a national forest, so far as such proclamation affects the above-described lands.

The oil and gas deposits in the public lands in the W 1/2 sec. 3, secs. 4, 9, 10, S 1/2 sec. 11, S 1/2 sec. 13, secs. 14, 15, E 1/2 sec. 16, secs. 22 to 27 inclusive, secs. 34, 35, and 36, T. 5 N., R. 19 W., shall be subject to development and extraction under the mineral-leasing laws subject to the condition that no lessee shall use or invade the surface of such lands for any purpose. The oil and gas deposits in the public lands in the remaining areas of the condor sanctuary shall be subject to development and extraction under the mineral-leasing laws subject to the condition that no lessee shall use or invade, for any purpose, the surface of any such lands within one-half mile of a condor nest active within 3 years, without specific authorization by the United States Forest Service. Leases affecting any of the lands shall be subject to any special stipulations found necessary by the Secretary of Agriculture, with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Interior, to preserve the usefulness as a condor sanctuary of the lands reserved by this order.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Secretary of the Interior.

JANUARY 16, 1951
(F. R. Doc. 51-1041; Filed, Jan. 22, 1951; 8:45 a.m.)

Federal and State Laws for

Protection of the California Condor

Federal

"..... there is no Federal protection for the condor, other than a ban on the issuance of scientific collecting permits."

Above is quoted from letter of John H. Baker, President, National Audubon Society, to the Forest Supervisor, date of April 10, 1951.

State Laws of the State of California provide protection for the California Condor as a scavenger bird and as a vanishing species, although they are not specifically mentioned by name,

The above information was obtained from Mr. Rett of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History on January 23, 1952.

Special Stipulation Adopted by the Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Interior in Accordance With Public Land Order No. 695 of January 16, 1951.

The lessee is not authorized to commence operations on this lease area until the Forest Service has approved a plan setting forth the conditions of surface occupancy and use reasonably necessary to protect the Condors on the area. Failure of the lessee to comply with such plan shall be a breach of the conditions of this lease.

The lessee will not on any land which the lessee has the right under this lease to use the surface erect or install any rig for the drilling of any well nor construct any road, erect any structure or conduct any activity within one-half mile of any Condor nest known to have been active within three years prior to such operations, and will not carry on blasting within one mile of obstructed distance or two miles of unobstructed distance from such nesting site, unless a permit be obtained from the Forest Service to conduct such activity. The location of the Condor nests shall be subject to determination by the Forest Service and shall not be subject to question or appeal by the lessee, sub-lessee, or assignee.

In accepting this lease the lessee agrees to pledge, and obtain pledges from all persons admitted to the area by the lessee, or who may enter it on his behalf, not to molest, shoot at, or in any way injure or do anything likely to cause any injury to any Condors, and not to approach within one-half mile of any Condor nest, nor to disclose the location of any such nest.

The determination of the Secretary of the Interior shall be final with respect to any disputed question, either of fact or of extent of right, use, or privilege, which may arise with respect to the provisions of these stipulations.

Special Stipulation Included in Leases Involving 16 Section Area.

As provided in Public Land Order No. 695 of January 16, 1951, no lessee shall use or invade the surface of the _____ and those lands in Sections _____, for any purpose. The lessee is however, authorized to employ directional drilling to exploit the mineral resources under this area provided that such drilling will not disturb the surface of the area or otherwise interfere with the use being made of it by the Forest Service. It is understood and agreed that the use of this area for national forest purposes is superior to any other use.

Form 4-216
June 1951

Revised
February 1952

Standard Stipulations in National Forest Area

STIPULATIONS FOR LANDS UNDER JURISDICTION OF DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The lands embraced in this lease (permit) issued under the Mineral Leasing Act of February 25, 1920 (41 Stat. 437, 30 U.S.C., 1946 ed., sec. 181 et seq.), as amended, the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands of August 7, 1947 (61 Stat. 913, 30 U.S.C., 1946 ed., Supp. III, sec. 35 et seq.) the act of September 1, 1949 (63 Stat. 683, 30 U.S.C., 1946 ed., Supp. III, sec. 192c), or the act of June 30, 1950 (64 Stat. 311, 16 U.S.C., 1946 ed., Supp. IV, sec. 508(b)) being under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, the lessee (permittee) hereby agrees:

(1) To conduct all operations authorized by this lease (permit) with due regard for good land management, not to cut or destroy timber without first obtaining permission from the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture, and to pay for all such timber cut or destroyed at the rates prescribed by such representative; to avoid unnecessary damage to improvements, timber, crops, or other cover; unless otherwise authorized by the representative of the Secretary of Agriculture, not to drill any well within 200 feet of any building standing on the leased (permitted) lands, and whenever required in writing by the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture to fence or fill all sump holes, ditches and other excavations, remove or cover all debris, and so far as reasonably possible, restore the surface of the leased (permitted) land to its former condition, and when required by such representative to bury all pipe lines below plow depth.

(2) To do all in his power to prevent and suppress forest, brush or grass fires on the leased (permitted) land and in its vicinity, and to require his employees, contractors, subcontractors, and employees of contractors or subcontractors to do likewise. Unless prevented by circumstances over which he has no control, the lessee (permittee) shall place his employees, contractors, subcontractors, and employees of contractors and subcontractors employed on the leased (permitted) land at the disposal of any authorized officer of the Department of Agriculture for the purpose of fighting forest, brush, or grass fires on or originating on the leased (permitted) lands or on adjacent areas or caused by the negligence of the lessee (permittee) or his employees, contractors, subcontractors and employees of contractors and subcontractors, with the understanding that payment for such services shall be made at rates to be determined by the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture, which rates shall not be less than the current rates of pay prevailing in the vicinity for services of a similar character: Provided, that if the lessee (permittee), his employees, contractors, subcontractors, or employees of contractors or subcontractors, caused or could have prevented the origin or spread of said fire or fires, no payment shall be made for services so rendered.

During periods of serious fire danger to forest, brush, or grass, as may be specified by the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture, the lessee (permittee) shall prohibit smoking and the building of camp and lunch fires by his employees, contractors, subcontractors, and employees of contractors or subcontractors within the leased (permitted) area except at established camps, and shall enforce this prohibition by all means within his power: Provided, that the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture may designate safe places where, after all inflamable material has been cleared away, camp fires may be built for the purpose of heating lunches and where, at the option of the lessee (permittee), smoking may be permitted.

The lessee (permittee) shall not burn rubbish, trash or other inflammable materials except with the consent of the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture and shall n ot use explosives in such a manner as to scatter inflammable materials on the surface of the land during the forest, brush, or grass fire season, except as authorized to do so or on areas approved by such representative.

The lessee (permittee) shall build or construct such fire lines or do such clearing on the leased land as the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture decides is essential for forest, brush, and grass fire prevention which is or may be nessitated by the exercise of the privileges authorized by this lease (permit), and shall maintain such fire tools at his headquarters or at the appropriate location on the leased (permitted) land as are deemed necessary by such representative.

(3) In the location, design, construction and maintenance of all authorized works, buildings, plants, waterways, roads, telegraph or telephone lines, pipe lines, reservoirs, tanks, pumping stations, or other structures or clearance, the lessee (permittee) shall do all things reasonably necessary to prevent or reduce to the fullest extent scarring and erosion of the land and any damage to the watershed. Where construction, operation, or maintenance of any of the facilities on or connected with this lease (permit) causes damage to the watershed, the lessee (permittee) agrees to repair such damage and to take such corrective measures to prevent further damage to the watershed as are deemed necessary by the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture.

(4) To pay the lessor (permitter) or his tenant, as the case may be, for any and all damage to or destruction of property caused by lessee's (permittee's) operations hereunder; to save and hold the lessor (permitter) or his tenanct harmless from all damage or claims for damage to persons or property resulting from the lessee's (permittee's) operations under this lease (permit).

(5) To recognize existing uses and commitments, in the form of Forest Service grazing, timber cutting, and special use permits, water developments, ditch, road, trail, pipe line, telephone line, and fence rights-of-way and other similar improvements, and to conduct his operations so as to interfere as little as possible with the rights and privileges granted by these permits or with other existing uses.

(6) If lessee (permittee) shall construct any camp on the land, such camp shall be located at a place approved by the forest supervisor, and such forest supervisor shall have authority to require that such camp be kept in a neat and sanitary condition.

(7) To comply with all the rules and regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture governing the national forests or other lands under his jurisdiction which are embraced in this lease (permit).

(8) Unless otherwise authorized, prior to the beginning of operations to appoint and maintain at all times during the term of this lease (permit) a local agent upon whom may be served written orders or notices respecting matters contained in this stipulation, and to inform the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture, in writing, of the name and address of such agent. If a substitute agent is appointed, the lessee (permittee) shall immediately so inform the said representative.

(9) To address all matters relating to this stipulation to the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture at

_____

or to such other representative as may, from time to time, be designated, provided that such designation shall be in writing and be delivered to the lessee (permittee) or his agent.

(10) If all or any part of the leased (permitted) lands lie within a municipal watershed, or are, in the opinion of the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture, primarily valuable for watershed protection, the lessee (permittee) shall reseed or otherwise restore the vegetative cover, as required by the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture, for watershed protection and erosion prevention on any areas damaged because of the operation.

_____

Lessee (Permittee)